GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1886
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2009
NREGS IN NAXAL AFFECTED AREAS
Tandon Shri Lal Ji

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) are facing difficulties in executing works under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in areas affected by naxal activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise;

(c) whether difficulties are also being faced in payment of wages to the workers due to the absence of banks and post-offices in such naxalite affected areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which payment of wages is being made to the workers in areas where there is no banks/post offices; and

(e) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN 'ADITYA')

(a): No such reports have been received in the Ministry in this regard.

(b): Does not arise.

(c)& (d): State Government of Chattisgarh made a reference to the Ministry in this regard. The Ministry examined the matter and a temporary relaxation has been given for making wage payment to NREGA workers through Banks/Post offices in respect of Katakalyan, Kuakunda and Orcha blocks of districts of Dantewada and Bastar of Chattisgarh keeping in view severe naxalite problem and outreach of Banks and Post Offices in this area.

(e): In case the State Governments face insurmountable difficulties in making wage payment to NREGA workers through Banks/Post offices and brings it to the notice of the Ministry, the Central Government may permit it to make wage payment in cash so that there is no hindrance in fulfillment of the objectives of the Act.